



## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

29 MARCH 2017

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### (U) NATIONAL

#### (U) District of Columbia – FBI Arrests Iraqi Refugees Related to American’s Kidnapper

(U) Washington – The FBI yesterday arrested refugees living in Northern Virginia after they failed to disclose that one of their brothers had been involved in the 2004 kidnapping of an American contractor in Iraq. The refugees, Yousif Al Mashhandani and Adil Hasan, admitted to the FBI that they did not tell the authorities about their brother in Iraq when they applied for citizenship, according to a criminal complaint. The FBI said it had learned the brothers withheld the information when Mr. Mashhandani was fingerprinted as part of the citizenship process. When those fingerprints were analyzed in 2013, they matched those on a document seized by American commandos during the rescue of the contractor, Roy Hallums, in 2005.

SOURCE: 28 March 2017, [The New York Times](#)

#### (U) Florida – Coast Guard Seizes 16 Tons of Cocaine During Raids

(U) Fort Lauderdale – The US Coast Guard delivered 16 tons of cocaine that were seized in international waters. Fort Lauderdale officials used a crane to unload the wrapped bundles of drugs, which are worth about \$420 million. The drugs were confiscated over 17 different smuggling raids by US Coast Guard and Canadian ships. Officials said more than 30 suspected drug smugglers were arrested during the raids and have been sent to various jurisdictions for prosecution.

SOURCE: 28 March 2017, [CNN](#)

#### (U) Maryland – Teen Arrested for Planning School Shooting

(U) Thurmont – A Maryland high school student is expected to face charges after a journal with a detailed plan for a mass shooting at her school was found in her home, in addition to a shotgun and bomb-making materials, authorities said. On 23 March, the father of the suspect, Nichole Cevario, 18, told officials at Catocin High School in Thurmont, Maryland, about a "potential threat of violence towards the school," the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office said, and his daughter "was immediately removed from the classroom and turned over to investigators." Authorities searched Cevario's home where they found a shotgun with ammunition and "bomb-making materials to include pipes with end caps, shrapnel, fireworks, magnesium tape, and fuse material," the sheriff’s office said.

SOURCE: 27 March 2017, [ABC News](#)

#### (U) New York – Feds Arrest Mob-Linked Loan Sharks Accused of Running \$26M Racket

(U) Brooklyn – Brooklyn federal prosecutors say they've netted Bonanno crime family loansharks who racked up \$26 million in illegal proceeds. The 10 reputed Bonanno members and associates were charged with racketeering and related charges in the 37-count indictment unsealed yesterday. Acting Brooklyn US Attorney Bridget Rohde said the arrests "reveal La Costra Nostra's continued presence in the community. Through acts of violence, including murder conspiracy, loansharking, illegal gambling, robbery and other offenses, the defendants are alleged to have amassed a fortune in ill-gotten gains. With these arrests, the defendants will be held accountable for their wide-ranging and destructive conduct."

SOURCE: 28 March 2017, [New York Daily News](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) Germany – Germany Arrests Afghani Suspected of Helping Kill US Troops**

(U) Berlin – German police have arrested a suspected Afghan Taliban commander believed to have taken part in an attack on a military convoy about a decade ago in which at least 16 US and Afghan soldiers were killed. The federal prosecutor's office said yesterday that the 30-year old Afghan citizen, identified only as Abdullah P., was arrested in the southern state of Bavaria on 23 March. The suspect is believed to have joined the Taliban insurgency in 2002 and entered a unit commanded by his father, the statement said. In 2004, he took over the unit and received weapons including an artillery piece, a rocket and several guns. He was involved in several attacks on foreign and Afghan soldiers, including one in which a convoy of seven or eight military vehicles was attacked with at least two bombs and rocket-propelled grenades, according to the prosecutors.

SOURCE: 28 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Yemen – Yemen Captures Senior Al-Qa'ida Leader**

(U) Aden – Yemeni troops captured a senior leader of al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) during an early morning raid yesterday in the southeastern Hadramawt region, a local security official said. Special Forces stormed the house in a remote village where Abu Ali al-Sayari, a Saudi national of Yemeni origins, was hiding, the official said. They detained three others and killed two more. Al-Qa'ida militants took advantage of Yemen's civil war which began in 2015, seizing parts of the country's south before government soldiers and troops from a Saudi-led Arab coalition drove them out of major population centers.

SOURCE: 28 March 2017, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-874-1100.**

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